



# *CITY COUNCIL*

## *Evidentiary Hearing*

**Public Hearing  
Redistricting Commission Recommendation  
Monday, March 21, 2022  
5 pm**

*City Council meetings, hearing and other sessions are filmed and can be viewed LIVE while the meeting is taking place via the attached Zoom link and dial-in phone number, on Facebook and on BCTV MAC Channel 99 or at your convenience at <https://www.readingpa.gov/content/city-council-video>. Comments posted in Zoom Chat and on Facebook are not considered public comment and a response may not occur.*

**Public Comment Instructions:**

Citizens desiring to address the Council at its public hearing may do so by providing notice verbally or in writing by providing their name, address and the subject matter to be discussed to the City Clerk any time before 5:00 p.m. on the day of the scheduled hearing. Any person who fails to sign in with the City Clerk shall not be permitted to speak until all those who signed in have done so. Those testifying must limit their comments to three minutes. Citizens may also choose to submit written public comment via letter or email by sending a letter or email clearly marked "public comment" by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

*All remarks must be directed to Council as a body and not to any individual Council member or public or elected official in attendance. Any comment that is personally offensive or impertinent will not be read into the record.*

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Please click this URL to join.

<https://readingpa.zoom.us/j/87341816790?pwd=d2ZKeWR2REJ5bUw0TXkzMnROdmxtdz09>

Passcode: 592538

Or One tap mobile:

+13017158592,,87341816790#,,, \*592538# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,87341816790#,,, \*592538# US (Chicago)

Or join by phone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 720 707 2699  
or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free) or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 873 4181 6790

Passcode: 592538

## **I. Call to Order & Purpose**

The purpose of this hearing is obtain public comment on the proposed recommendation from the Redistricting Commission.

### **Administrative Code 5-214. Redistricting process; Redistricting Advisory Commission.**

[Added 5-28-2002 by Ord. No. 23-2002]

A. After each decennial census, Council shall, within 60 days after the receipt of the census information from the federal government, appoint a Redistricting Advisory Commission. Each Council member shall appoint one person from his/her respective district. The President of Council shall select one member to represent the at-large community. The Planning Commission will be asked to assign two current members to the Advisory Commission.

B. This Redistricting Advisory Commission shall review and compare the new and old census information with the current Council District configuration. This group shall prepare and present a redistricting proposal(s) to the full body of Council in no less than 120 days after their appointment.

C. The district proposals shall give strong consideration to the combination of neighborhoods that are continuous but that share similar quality-of-life issues. This configuration will support the principle of electing representatives that can easily represent the voice of the community they represent. The Advisory Commission shall also consider the federal redistricting laws.

D. Council shall hold a minimum of one public hearing to get public input on the redistricting proposal(s), within 45 days of their receipt of the proposals from the Redistricting Advisory Commission, and shall adopt by ordinance a redistricting plan, either new or status quo, at their next regular business meeting.

The recommendation was introduced by ordinance at the March 14<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting.

## **II. Presentation on the Process Used by the Commission & Their Recommendation – Redistricting Commission**

## **III. Public Comment (No More than 3 minutes per speaker)**

Please see the public comment registration process above.

**IV. City Council will consider the recommendation via ordinance at either the March 28<sup>th</sup> or April 11<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting**

**V. Adjourn**



## AGENDA MEMO

### City Council Office

**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Redistricting Commission  
**PREPARED BY:** Michael D. Golembiewski, Berks County Planning Commission  
**MEETING DATE:** March 14, 2022  
**AGENDA MEMO DATE:** February 16, 2022  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Revising City Council Districts 1 and 6 boundaries

#### RECOMMENDATION

Based on new population counts from the 2020 Decennial Census, the recommendation is to move Precinct 5-1 from Council District 6 to District 1.

#### BACKGROUND

The City Charter calls for a Redistricting Commission to be organized after the receipt of Decennial Census counts to review Council boundaries and make recommendations for Citywide redistricting. The Commission met in November and December 2021, and in January and February 2022 to undertake this process. The Commission was provided data and assistance by staff from the Berks County Planning Commission; legal assistance from City and County legal staffs; mapping assistance from City and County Information Technology staffs; and meeting support from the City Clerk. The Commission reviewed past and current Census data and Council District boundaries and made numerous attempts at making Districts more equivalent in population as required by State and Federal regulations while improving neighborhood cohesiveness (as allowed by the Charter) by moving Precinct 5-1 into Council District 1. The Commission's ultimate recommendation to Council satisfies both objectives.

#### BUDGETARY IMPACT

There should be no budgetary impact.

#### SUBSEQUENT ACTION

Formal action by Council is required to hold a Public Hearing within 45 days of receipt of this recommendation then adopt the updated boundaries at the next regular meeting of Council. Review at Committee of the Whole 2/28, 2022. Schedule Public Hearing for March 21, 2022, 5:00 p.m.

#### RECOMMENDED BY

Redistricting Commission

#### RECOMMENDED MOTION

Approve/Deny the recommendation

cc: File

CURRENT CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS BY PRECINCT POPULATIONS

Proposed Dist.	Orig. Dist.	Name	Population
1	1	W 01 P 01	1672
1	1	W 02 P 01	1489
1	1	W 03 P 01	2869
1	1	W 18 P 01	2001
1	1	W 18 P 02	1913
1	1	W 18 P 03	2478
1	1	W 18 P 04	2700
2	2	W 03 P 02	2682
2	2	W 08	2633
2	2	W 10 P 01	3290
2	2	W 16 P 01	2260
2	2	W 16 P 02	1576
2	2	W 16 P 04	2350
2	2	W 16 P 05	1450
3	3	W 09 P 02	2428
3	3	W 09 P 05	1816
3	3	W 11 P 02	3121
3	3	W 11 P 03	1330
3	3	W 12 P 01	2274
3	3	W 12 P 03	2759
3	3	W 12 P 05	1305
3	3	W 13 P 01	970
4	4	W 13 P 02	2492
4	4	W 13 P 05	2343
4	4	W 17 P 01	2385
4	4	W 17 P 02	1424
4	4	W 17 P 05	3098
4	4	W 17 P 07	1522
4	4	W 17 P 08	1936
5	5	W 14 P 06	1529
5	5	W 15 P 01	2047
5	5	W 15 P 02	3794
5	5	W 15 P 06	2366
5	5	W 15 P 07	2124
5	5	W 19 P 01	2126
5	5	W 19 P 02	1915
6	6	W 04 P 01	1857
6	6	W 05	1049
6	6	W 06 P 01	1674
6	6	W 06 P 03	3236
6	6	W 07	2890
6	6	W 14 P 01	1996
6	6	W 14 P 04	2046
6	6	W 14 P 05	1897

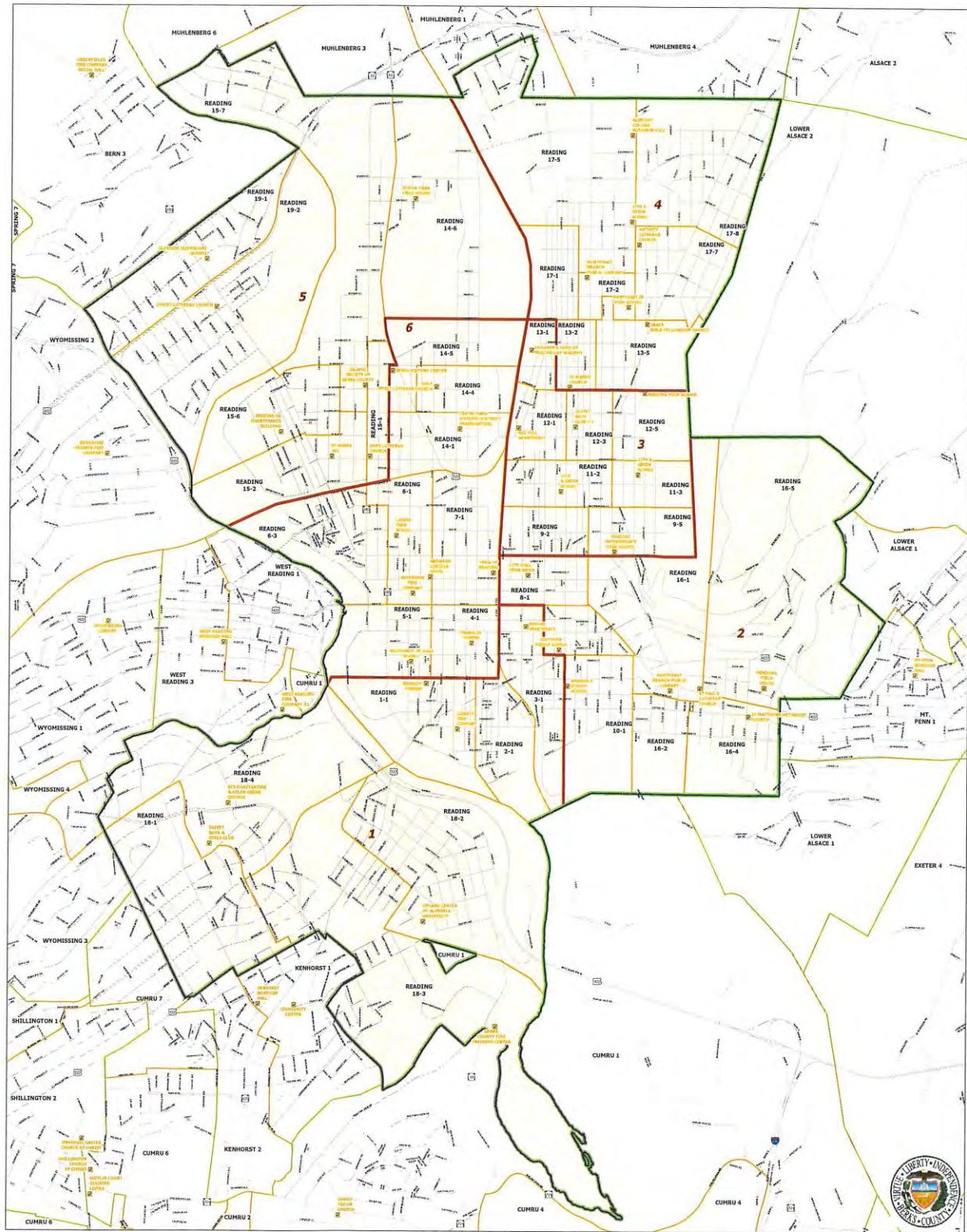
Total city population:	95,112
Mean population per district:	15,852

Proposed Dist.	Dist. Pop	Deviation
1	15,122	-730
2	16,241	389
3	16,003	151
4	15,200	-652
5	15,901	49
6	16,645	793

**Std Dev: 542.1**  
(if all districts were exactly the same size, the standard deviation would be 0.0)







# **Voting Precincts & Polling Places** **City of Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania**

- Polling Place
- Voting Precinct
- City of Reading
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads

0 2,000 4,000 Feet

Map Produced by Berks County GIS  
 Coordinate System: State Plane Pennsylvania South  
 Datum: NAD 1983  
 Information shown is based on geospatial data from the County of Berks,  
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 Date: 5/20/2019

PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS BY PRECINCT POPULATIONS

Proposed Dist.	Orig. Dist.	Name	Population
1	1	W 01 P 01	1672
1	1	W 02 P 01	1489
1	1	W 03 P 01	2869
1	1	W 18 P 01	2001
1	1	W 18 P 02	1913
1	1	W 18 P 03	2478
1	1	W 18 P 04	2700
2	2	W 03 P 02	2682
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3	3	W 11 P 03	1330
3	3	W 12 P 01	2274
3	3	W 12 P 03	2759
3	3	W 12 P 05	1305
3	3	W 13 P 01	970
4	4	W 13 P 02	2492
4	4	W 13 P 05	2343
4	4	W 17 P 01	2385
4	4	W 17 P 02	1424
4	4	W 17 P 05	3098
4	4	W 17 P 07	1522
4	4	W 17 P 08	1936
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5	5	W 15 P 07	2124
5	5	W 19 P 01	2126
5	5	W 19 P 02	1915
6	6	W 04 P 01	1857
6	6	W 05	1049
6	6	W 06 P 01	1674
6	6	W 06 P 03	3236
6	6	W 07	2890
6	6	W 14 P 01	1996
6	6	W 14 P 04	2046
6	6	W 14 P 05	1897

changed

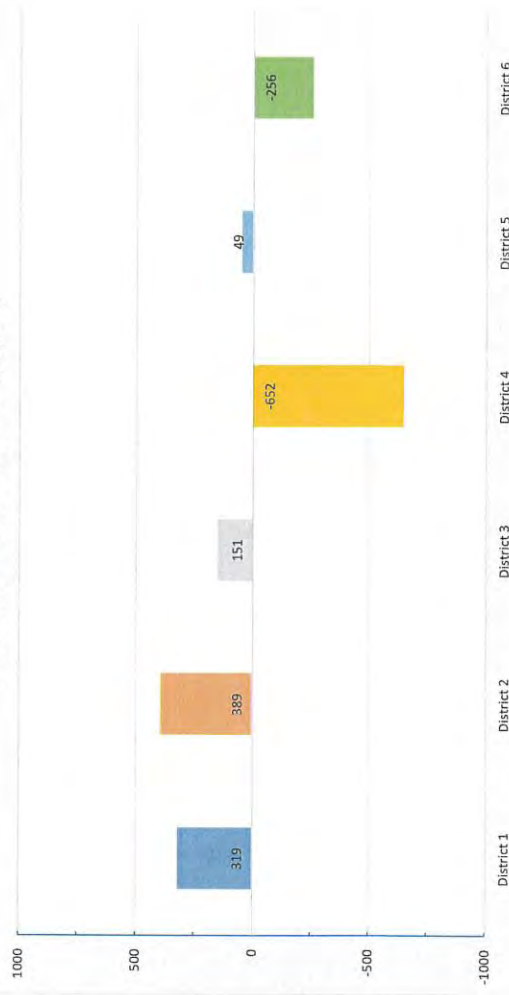
Total city population:	95,112
Mean population per district:	15,852

Proposed Dist.	Dist. Pop	Deviation
1	16,171	319
2	16,241	389
3	16,003	151
4	15,200	-652
5	15,901	49
6	15,596	-256

**Std Dev: 358.0**  
(if all districts were exactly the same size, the standard deviation would be 0.0)

Summary:	Proposal
Largest district deviation:	652 vs. 793 in the original
Standard deviation:	358 vs. 542 in the original
Precincts that change districts:	1
People who change districts:	1,049 which is 1.1% of the city population

**Proposed Districts**  
Numerical Departure from Mean (15,852)





# City of Reading, PA Proposed Council Districts Change 2022

